(b) whether a similar situation was created on 27th June, 2006, with even lesser rainfall;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted into the causes for this unbearable situation year after year, which throws the entire traffic in the city out of gear; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against those found responsible for the chaos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Government of NCT of Delhi, Public Works Department (PWD) has informed that cognizance has been taken of the alleged chaotic situation created on roads near ITO in Delhi during the rains on 18th July, 2006. Due to action taken by PWD, Government of NCT of Delhi, no such chaotic situation occurred in the subsequent rains in the area near ITO.

(b) It has been informed that a detailed inquiry has been conducted by Government of NCT of Delhi into the causes of the situation on 18th July, 2006. However, such a situation is not recurring year after year in ITO area.

(c) and (d) The PWD has informed that it was found during the inquiry that water blockage was caused due to chokage of the trunk drain with heavy materials other than silt such as ploythenes, plastic bottles, bags etc. The drain has since been cleaned and no stagnation of water was found during subsequent rains.

Releasing Nepali citizens from jails

2791. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some prominent citizens and parliamentarians have appealed to Government to release the Nepali citizens, languishing in Indian jails;

(b) whether Government are considering their request favourably, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Some organisations, namely,

Nepali Janadhikar Suraksha Samiti (Bharat), Nepali Jansampark Samiti, Bharat Nepal Janekta Manch etc. have appealed to the Government for release of Nepali citizens from Indian jails. The cases of such prisoners are to be dealt with as per the laws of the land.

Additional Batallions of Para-military forces

†2792. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise additional battalions of para-military forces, keeping in view the growing terrorist attacks and activities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to put a check on the terrorist activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Based on operational requirements to deal with internal security situations and terrorist activities, the Central Government reviews the requirements of forces from time to time.

(b) In order to combat the menace of terrorism, the Government has been pursuing a multi dimenstional policy that includes strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment for security forces both at the Centre and in the States, undertaking well coordinated intelligence based operations in neutralizing terrorist activities. Besides, steps have also been taken to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation in this regard given the global dimensions of terrorism.

Demand for additional powers by Delhi Government

2793. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of NCT of Delhi has demanded additional powers, especially in the matter of law and order, police and urban development;

(b) if so, the precise demand made by that Government and the ground adduced in support thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.